

PLE

PLEBEIAN. *n. f.* [plebeian, Fr. plebeius, Lat.] One of the lower people.

Let him
Hoist thee up to the shouting plebeians.
You're plebeians, if they be senators.
Upon the least intervals of peace, the quarrels between
the nobles and the plebeians would revive.

1. Popular; consisting of mean persons.
As wine are to gardens, so are tumults to parliaments,
and plebeian concourses to publick counsels.

2. Belonging to the lower ranks.
He through the midst unmark'd,
In shew plebeian angel militant

3. Vulgar; low; common.
Of lowest order.

To apply notions philosophical to plebeian terms; or to say,
where the notions cannot fitly be reconciled, that there
wanteth a term or nomenclature for it, as the ancients used,
they be but shifts of ignorance.

The differences of mouldable and not mouldable, scissible
and not scissible are plebeian notions.

Dishonour not the vengeance I design'd.
A queen! and own a base plebeian mind!

PLEDGE. *n. f.* [pledge, Fr. pignus, Italian.]
1. Any thing put to pawn.

2. A gage; any thing given by way of warrant or security; a
pawn.

These men at the first were only pitied; the great humility,
zeal and devotion, which appeared to be in them, was in all
men's opinion a pledge of their harmless meaning.

If none appear to prove upon thy person
Thy heinous, manifest and many treasons;

There is my pledge, I'll prove it on thy heart.

That voice their liveliest pledge
Of hope in fears and dangers.

Money is necessary both for counters and for pledges, and
carrying with it even reckoning and security.

Hymen shall be aton'd, shall join two hearts,
And Aribert shall be the pledge of peace.

3. A surety; a bail; an hostage.
What purpose could there be of treason, when the Guian-
ians offered to leave pledges, fix for one.

Good sureties will we have for thy return,
And at thy pledges peril keep thy day.

TO PLEDGE. *v. a.* [pledge, Fr. pignus, Italian.]
1. To put in pawn.

Asleep and naked as an Indian lay,
An honest factor stole a gem away;

He pledg'd it to the knight; the knight had wit,
So kept the diamond.

2. To give as warrant or security.
I accept her;

And here to pledge my vow, I give my hand.

3. To secure by a pledge.
To invite to drink, by accepting the cup or health after
another.

The fellow, that
Parts bread with him, and pledges
The breath of him in a divided draught,
Is th' readiest man to kill him.

To you noble lord of Westmoreland,
I pledge your grace.

That hexameter orator began the king of Homebia's
health; he presently pledg'd it.

PLEDGET. *n. f.* [plagget, Dutch.] A small mat of lint.

I applied a pledget of basilicon.

PLEIADES. *n. f.* [pleiades, Lat. πλειάδες.] A northern con-
stellation.

The pleiades before him danc'd,
Shedding sweet influence.

Then sailors quarter'd heav'n, and found a name
For pleiads, hyads and the northern car.

PLENARILY. *adv.* [from plenary.] Fully; completely.

The cause is made a plenary cause, and ought to be deter-
mined plenarily.

PLENARY. *adj.* [from plenus, Lat.] Full; complete.

I am far from denying that compliance on my part, for
plenary consent it was not, to his destruction.

The cause is made a plenary cause.

A treatise on a subject should be plenary or full, so that no-
thing may be wanting, nothing which is proper omitted.

PLENARY. *n. f.* Decisive procedure.
A bare institution without induction does not make a
plenary against the king, where he has a title to present.

PLENARINESS. *n. f.* [from plenary.] Fullness; completeness.

PLENILUNARY. *adj.* [from plenilunium, Lat.] Relating to
the full moon.

If we add the two Egyptian days in every month, the in-
terlunary and plenilunary exemptions, there would arise above
an hundred more.

PLE

PLENIPOTENCE. *n. f.* [from plenus and potentia, Lat.] Fullness
of power.

PLENIPOTENT. *adj.* [plenipotens, Lat.] Invested with full
power.

My substitutes I send you, and create
Plenipotens on earth, of matchless might
Issuing from me.

PLENIPOTENTIARY. *n. f.* [plenipotentiaire, Fr.] A negotiator
invested with full power.

They were only the plenipotentiary monks of the patriarchal
monks.

PLENIST. *n. f.* [from plenus, Lat.] One that holds all space
to be full of matter.

Those spaces, which the vacuists would have empty, be-
cause devoid of air, the plenists do not prove replenished with
subtle matter by any sensible effects.

PLENITUDE. *n. f.* [plenitudo, from plenus, Lat. plenitudo, Fr.]
1. Fullness; the contrary to vacuity.

If there were every where an absolute plenitude and density
without any pores between the particles of bodies, all bodies
of equal dimensions would contain an equal quantity of mat-
ter, and consequently be equally ponderous.

2. Repletion; animal fullness; plethora.
Relaxation from plenitude is cured by spare diet.

3. Exuberance; abundance.
The plenitude of the pope's power of dispensing was the
main question.

4. Completeness.
The plenitude of William's fame
Can no accumulated forces receive.

PLENTEOUS. *adj.* [from plenty.]
1. Copious; exuberant; abundant.

Author of evil, unknown till thy revolt
Now plenteous these acts of hateful strife.

Two plenteous fountains the whole prospect crown'd
This through the gardens leads its streams around.

2. Fruitful; fertile.
Take up the fifth part of the land in the seven plenteous
years.

Lab'ring the soil and reaping plenteous crop.
PLENTEOUSLY. *adv.* [from plenteus.] Copiously; abun-
dantly; exuberantly.

Thy due from me is tears,
Which nature, love and filial tenderness
Shall, O dear father, pay thee plenteously.

God created the great whales and each
Soul living, each that creeps, which plenteously
The waters generated.

God proves us in this life, that he may the more plenteously
reward us in the next.

PLENTEOUSNESS. *n. f.* [from plenteus.] Abundance; fer-
tility.

The seven years of plenteousness in Egypt were ended.

PLENTIFUL. *adj.* [plenty and full.] Copious; abundant; ex-
uberant; fruitful.

To Amalthea he gave a country, bending like a horn;
whence the tale of Amalthea's plentiful horn.

He that is plentiful in expences, will hardly be preserved
from decay.

If it be a long winter, it is commonly a more plentiful
year.

When they had a plentiful harvest, the farmer had hardly
any corn.

Alcibiades was a young man of noble birth, excellent edu-
cation and a plentiful fortune.

PLENTIFULLY. *adv.* [from plentiful.] Copiously; abundantly.

They were not multiplied before, but they were at that
time plentifully increased.

Born is plentifully furnished with water, there being a great
multitude of fountains.

PLENTIFULNESS. *n. f.* [from plentiful.] The state of being
plentiful; abundance; fertility.

PLENTY. *n. f.* [from plenus, full.]
1. Abundance; such a quantity as is more than enough.

Peace,
Dear nurse of arts, plenty and joyful birth.

What makes land, as well as other things, dear, is plenty
of buyers, and but few sellers; and to plenty of sellers and
few buyers makes land cheap.

2. Fruitfulness; exuberance.
The teeming clouds
Descend in gladness plenty o'er the world.

3. It is used, I think, barbarously for plentiful.
To graze with thy calves,
Where water is plenty.

If reasons were as plenty as black berries, I would give no
man a reason on compulsion.

4. A state in which enough is had and enjoyed.
Ye shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the
Lord.

PLI

PLEONASM. *n. f.* [pleonasm, Fr. pleonasmus, Lat.] A figure
of rhetoric, by which more words are used than are necessary.

PLESH. *n. f.* [A word used by Spenser instead of plesh, for the
convenience of rhyme.] A puddle; a boggy marsh.

Out of the wound the red blood flowed fresh,
That underneath his feet soon made a purple plesh.

PLETHORA. *n. f.* [from πλεθώρα.] The state in which
the vessels are fuller of humours than is agreeable to a nat-
ural state or health; arises either from a diminution of some
natural evacuations, or from debauch and feeding higher or
more in quantity than the ordinary powers of the viscera can
digest: evacuations and exercise are its remedies.

The diseases of the fluids are a plethora, or too great abun-
dance of laudable juices.

PLETHORETICK. *adj.* [from plethora.] Having a full habit.

PLETHORICK. *adj.* [from plethora.] Having a full habit.

The fluids, as they consist of spirit, water, salts, oil and
terrestrial parts, differ according to the redundancy of the
whole or of any of these; and therefore the plethorick are
phlegmatick, oily, saline, earthy or dry.

PLETHORY. *n. f.* [plethora, Fr. from πλεθώρα.] Fullness of
habit.

In too great repletion, the elastick force of the tube throws
the fluid with too great a force, and subjects the animal to
the diseases depending upon a plethora.

PLEVIN. *n. f.* [plevina, Fr. plevina, law Lat.] In law, a
warrant or assurance. See REPLEVIN.

PLEURISY. *n. f.* [πνευσις; pleuresis, Fr. pleuritis, Lat.]
Pleurisy is an inflammation of the pleura, though it is
hardly distinguishable from an inflammation of any other part
of the breast, which are all from the same cause, a stagnated
blood; and are to be remedied by evacuation, suppuration or
expedication, or all together.

PLEURITICAL. *adj.* [from pleurisy.]

1. Dicaud with a pleurisy.
The viscous matter, which lies like leather upon the ex-
travasated blood of pleuritical people, may be dissolved by a
due degree of heat.

2. Denoting a pleurisy.
His blood was pleuritical, it had neither colour nor con-
sistence.

PLYABLE. *adj.* [pliable, from plier, Fr. to bend.]
1. Easy to be bent; flexible.

Though an act be never so sinful, they will strip it of its
guilt, and make the very law so pliable and bending, that it
shall be impossible to be broke.

Whether the different motions of the animal spirits may
have any effect on the mould of the face, when the lineam-
ents are pliable and tender, I shall leave to the curious.

2. Flexible of disposition; easy to be persuaded.

PLIABLENESS. *n. f.* [from pliable.]
1. Flexibility; easiness to be bent.

2. Flexibility of mind.
Compare the ingenious pliancy to virtuous counsels in
youth, as it comes fresh out of the hands of nature, with the
confirmed obliquity in most sorts of sin, that is to be found
in an aged sinner.

PLIANCY. *n. f.* [from pliant.] Easiness to be bent.

Had not exercise been necessary, nature would not have
given such an activity to the limbs, and such a pliancy to every
part, as produces those compressions and extensions necessary
for the preservation of such a system.

PLIANT. *adj.* [pliant, French.]
1. Bending; tough; flexible; pliant; lithe; limber.

An anatomist promised to dissect a woman's tongue, and
examine whether the fibres may not be made up of a finer
and more pliant thread.

2. Easy to take a form.
Particles of heav'nly fire,
Or earth but new divided from the sky,
And pliant still retain'd th' ethereal energy.

As the wax melts that to the flame I hold,
Pliant and warm may still her heart remain,
Soft to the print, but ne'er turn hard again.

3. Easily complying.
In languages the tongue is more pliant to all sounds, the
joins more supple to all feats of activity, in youth than after-
wards.

Those, who bore bulwarks on their backs,
Now practise ev'ry pliant gesture,
Op'ning their trunk for ev'ry tester.

4. Easily persuaded.
The will was then ductile and pliant to right reason, it
met the dictates of a clarified understanding halfway.

PLIANTNESS. *n. f.* [from pliant.] Flexibility; toughness.

Greatness of weight, closeness of parts, fixation, pliant-
ness or softness.

PLICATURE. *n. f.* [plicatura, from plico, Lat.] Fold; double.

PLICATION. *n. f.* Plication is used somewhere in Clarissa.

PLIERS. *n. f.* [from ply.] An instrument by which any thing
is laid hold on to bend it.

PLO

Pliers are of two sorts, flat-nosed and round-nosed; their
office is to hold and fasten upon a small work, and to fit it in
its place: the round-nosed pliers are used for turning or boring
wire or small plate into a circular form.

I made a detention by a small pair of pliers.

TO PLIGHT. *v. a.* [plichten, Dutch.]
1. To pledge; to give as surety.

He plighted his right hand
Unto another love, and to another land.

Met the night mare, and her name told,
Bid her alight, and her troth plight.

I again in Henry's royal name,
Give thee her hand for sign of plighted faith.

Here my inviolable faith I plight,
Lo, thou be my defence, I, thy delight.

New loves you seek,
New vows to plight, and plighted vows to break.

I'll never mix my plighted hands with thine,
While such a cloud of mischiefs hangs about us.

2. To braid; to weave. [from plico, Lat. whence to ply or
bend, and plight, pleight or plait, a fold or flexure.]
Her head she fondly would aguilie
With gaudie girlonds, or fresh flowrets dight
About her neck, or rings of rushes plight.

I took it for a fairy vision
Of some gay creatures of the element,
That in the colours of the rainbow live,
And play i' th' plighted clouds.

PLIGHT. *n. f.* [This word Skinner imagines to be derived from
the Dutch, plicht, office or employment; but Junius observes,
that plicht, Saxon, signifies ditreits or preling danger; whence,
I suppose, plight was derived, it being generally used in a bad
sense.]

1. Condition; state.
When as the careful dwarf had told,
And made ensample of their mournful plight
Unto his master, he no longer would
There dwell in peril of like painful plight.

I think myself in better plight for a lender than you are.

Befeech your highness,
My women may be with me; for, you see,
My plight requires it.

They in lowliest plight repentant stood
Praying.

Thou must not here
Lie in this miserable loathsome plight.

Most perfect hero tried in heav'ly plight
Of labours huge and hard.

2. Good case.
Who abuseth his cattle and starves them for meat,
By carting or plowing, his gain is not great;
Where he that with labour can use them aright,
Hath gain to his comfort, and cattle in plight.

3. Pledge; gage. [from the verb.]
That lord, whose hand must take my plight, shall carry
Half my love with him, half my care and duty.

4. [From to plight.] A fold; a pucker; a double; a purtle;
a plait.

Yclad, for fear of scorching air,
All in a silken camus, lilly white,
Purs'd upon with many a folded plight.

PLINTH. *n. f.* [πλινθίς.] In architecture, is that square
member which serves as a foundation to the base of a pillar;
Vitruvius calls the upper part or abacus of the Tuscan pillar, a
plinth, because it resembles a square tile: moreover, the same
denomination is sometimes given to a thick wall, wherein
there are two or three bricks advanced in form of a plat-
band.

TO PLOD. *v. n.* [ploeghen, Dutch. Skinner.]
1. To toil; to moid; to drudge; to travel.

A plodding diligence brings us sooner to our journey's end,
than a fluttering way of advancing by starts.

He knows better than any man, what is not to be written;
and never hazards himself so far as to fall, but plods on de-
liberately, and, as a grave man ought, puts his staff before
him.

Th' unletter'd christian, who believes in grois,
Plods on to heav'n, and ne'er is at a loss.

2. To travel laboriously.
Rogues, plod away o' the hoof, seek shelter, pack. Sha.
If one of mean affairs
May plod it in a week, why may not I
Glide thither in a day.

Hast thou not held my stirrup?
Bare-headed, plodded by my foot-cloth mule,
And thought thee happy when I shook my head?

Ambitious love hath so in me offended,
That barefoot plod I the cold ground upon,
With faintest vow my faults to have amended.